

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A system for providing wireless communication within a local area network (LAN) ~~onboard~~ on board a mobile platform, said system comprising:

at least one seat transceiver mounted to each of a plurality of passenger seats located in a passenger seating area, said seat transceivers interconnected with each other;

at least one passenger service unit (PSU) located above the passenger seating area, said PSU comprising at least one PSU transceiver configured to substantially simultaneously have a direct path infrared (IR) signal transmission link with at least two adjacent said seat transceivers, thereby providing a redundant optical signal path to each one of said adjacent seat transceivers via said interconnection of said seat transceivers, ; and

~~a direct path infrared (IR) signal transmission link between said seat transceiver and said PSU transceiver,~~ said direct path IR transmission link configured to transmit data between said seat ~~transceiver~~ transceivers and said PSU transceiver.

2. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said seat transceiver is mounted on a top portion of a display unit attached to a passenger seat.

3. (cancelled)

4. (cancelled)

5. (previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein said seat transceiver configured to connect to at least one interface, said interface configured for connection with a client system using at least one of a Ethernet RJ-45 connection, a firewire connection, and a USB connection.

6. (original) The system of Claim 1 further comprising a server configured to exchange communication with said PSU.

7. (original) The system of Claim 6 wherein said PSU configured to filter data packets from a signal transmitted between said server and said PSU prior to transmitting the direct IR signal to said seat transceiver, such that an entire amount bandwidth of the signal between said sever and said PSU is not transmitted to said seat transceiver.

8. (original) The system of Claim 6 wherein said server further configured to exchange communication with a ground station via a satellite communications link, said ground station configured to access a terrestrial Internet.

9. (original) The system of Claim 8 wherein said server further configured to provide Internet data service to said client system utilizing the satellite communication link to said ground station.

10. (currently amended) A method for providing wireless communication within a local area network (LAN) located on a mobile platform, said method comprising:

locating a passenger service unit (PSU) that includes a PSU transceiver above a passenger seating area;

substantially simultaneously providing a direct path IR signal transmission link between ~~[[a]] at least two adjacent seat transceiver~~ transceivers mounted on ~~[[a]] adjacent~~ passenger ~~[[seat]] seats~~ and the PSU transceiver;

interconnecting the seat transceivers such that a redundant optical signal path is provided to each of the adjacent seat transceivers; and

transmitting data between the seat ~~transceiver~~ transceivers and the PSU transceiver using the direct path IR transmission link.

11. (original) The method of Claim 10, wherein providing a direct path IR transmission link comprises mounting the seat transceiver on a top portion of a display unit attached to a passenger seat.

12. (previously presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein providing a direct path IR transmission link comprises:

providing at least one interface port connected to the seat transceiver; and

connecting a client system to the interface port using at least one of a Ethernet RJ-45 connection, a firewire connection, and a USB connection.

13. (currently amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein transmitting data comprises:

~~providing a direct path IR transmission link to a plurality of seat transceivers interconnected with inter-seat wiring, thereby providing a redundant optical path to adjacent seat transceivers;~~

transmitting data from one of the ~~plurality of~~ adjacent seat transceivers to ~~the other another of the plurality of adjacent seat transceiver, via the inter-seat wiring,~~ when the direct IR link to one of the ~~plurality of~~ adjacent seat transceivers is blocked.

14. (original) The method of Claim 10, wherein the LAN further includes a server for exchanging communication with the PSU, and wherein transmitting data comprises filtering data packets from a signal transmitted between the server and the PSU prior to transmitting the direct IR signal to the seat transceiver, such that an entire amount of bandwidth of the signal between the sever and the PSU is not transmitted to the seat transceiver.

15. (original) The method of Claim 14, wherein the server utilizes a satellite communication link to exchange communication with a ground station capable of accessing a terrestrial Internet, and wherein transmitting data comprises utilizing the satellite communication link to provide Internet data service from the terrestrial Internet to the client system.

16. (currently amended) A method for providing wireless communication within a local area network (LAN) located on a mobile platform, said method comprising:

locating at least one passenger service unit (PSU) above a passenger seating area, each PSU including a PSU transceiver and adapted to exchange communications with at least one LAN server ~~onboard~~ on board the mobile platform;

substantially simultaneously providing a direct path IR signal transmission link between the PSU transceiver and at least ~~one of a plurality of~~ two adjacent seat transceivers adapted to exchange communication with the PSU transceiver, wherein each seat transceiver is interconnected and mounted to a respective one of a plurality of passenger seats;

providing a redundant optical signal path between the PSU transceiver and the adjacent seat transceivers ~~transceiver to reduce signal interference utilizing the direct path IR signal transmission link to the adjacent seat transceivers and the interconnection of the adjacent seat transceivers~~; and

providing at least one interface port connected to the ~~seat transceiver~~ transceivers, such that a passenger can connect a client system to the interface port and thereby access the LAN server.

17. (original) The method of Claim 16, wherein providing a direct path IR transmission link comprises mounting the seat transceiver on a top portion of a display unit attached to a passenger seat.

18. (currently amended) The method of Claim 16, wherein providing a redundant optical signal path comprises:

~~providing a direct path IR transmission link to a plurality of seat transceivers interconnected with inter-seat wiring, thereby providing a redundant optical path to adjacent seat transceivers;~~

transmitting data from one of the ~~plurality of adjacent~~ seat transceivers to ~~the other another of the plurality of adjacent~~ seat transceiver, ~~via the inter-seat wiring,~~ when the direct IR link to one of the ~~plurality of adjacent~~ seat transceivers is blocked.

19. (previously presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein providing a direct path IR transmission link comprises:

connecting a client system to the interface port using at least one of a Ethernet RJ-45 connection, a firewire connection, and a USB connection; and

transmitting data between the seat transceiver and the PSU transceiver using the direct path IR transmission link.

20. (original) The method of Claim 19, wherein the server utilizes a satellite communication link to exchange communications with a ground station capable of accessing a terrestrial Internet, and wherein transmitting data comprises:

utilizing the satellite communication link to provide Internet data service from the terrestrial Internet to the client system; and

filtering data packets from a signal transmitted between the server and the PSU prior to transmitting the direct IR signal to the seat transceiver, such that an entire amount of bandwidth of the signal between the sever and the PSU is not transmitted to the seat transceiver.